

PRESS RELEASE

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PASCUA YAQUI MOTHER INDICTED ON MURDER CHARGE IN DEATH OF CHILD

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- JENNIFER MIGUEL, 23, was arrested today, by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) at her home, located on the Pascua Yaqui Indian Reservation.

MIGUEL was indicted by a grand jury in Tucson, Arizona, on September 8, 1999, on one count of Murder in the Second Degree.

MIGUEL, the mother of the 2 year old male victim, is accused of deliberately or recklessly, and with extreme disregard for human life, withholding medical care and attention, depriving the child of food, and inflicting or allowing infliction of physical injuries. The child died on February 20, 1999.

FRANCISCO JAVIER VALENZUELA, the boyfriend of JENNIFER MIGUEL, has also been charged in the death of MIGUEL'S son. VALENZUELA was indicted by a federal grand jury on March 24, 1999, for Involuntary Manslaughter. VALENZUELA was detained and is currently in custody.

The maximum penalty is up to life imprisonment.

An indictment is simply a method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and an individual's guilt is only established upon conviction. The investigation was conducted by Special Agents of the FBI, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Pascua Yaqui Police Department.

CASE #: CR99-1189-TUC-FRZ (Miguel) & CR 99-426-TUC (Valenzuela) RELEASE #: 99107